

The Citizen.

Wayne County Organ
of the
REPUBLICAN PARTY

66th YEAR.

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA., FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1909.

NO. 1

PLEA FOR MURSE.

Mass Meeting In Bath Declares Him Innocent.

MAYOR ONE OF HIS CHAMPIONS

Sentence of Fifteen Years Declared to Be Disproportionate to the Offense With Which He Is Charged.

Bath, Me., Dec. 30. — Friends of Charles W. Morse, steamship promoter and banker, who was sentenced last month to serve fifteen years in prison on the charge of misapplying the funds of the National Bank of North America of New York, have held a mass meeting here, at which the mayor presided, and unanimously passed the following resolutions:

Whereas, Charles W. Morse, a most loyal son of Bath, has been sentenced to serve a term of fifteen years at Atlanta for an alleged misdemeanor and is now incarcerated at the Tombs prison pending a hearing before the board of appeals and.

Whereas, To a man of Mr. Morse's age a sentence of fifteen years is practically a life sentence and as it seems to us disproportionate to the offense with which he was charged; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that all honorable means shall be employed in his behalf to obtain a new trial and secure reasonable bail to which he is entitled under the constitution.

Be it further resolved, That we extend to him our hearty sympathy in this hour of trial, believing him innocent of any criminal act or intent.

Realizing fully that the honorable court of appeals is in duty bound to decide this



CHARLES W. MORSE.

case in accordance with the law and evidence as presented to them and having the utmost confidence in the wisdom and integrity of the sitting judges, we trust the respondent will have the benefit of every reasonable doubt.

Among the speakers were Mayor Hughes, former Mayor Edward W. Hyde, who said he also spoke for his brother, John F. Hyde, president of the Bath Iron works; President Horatio A. Duncan of the Marine Savings bank, City Treasurer Oscar C. Rogers, who is also president of the People's Savings bank, and William Rogers, a retired shipbuilder.

STEVENS DEFENDS THE DAM.

Former Chief Engineer Says Critics Are Nicaraguan Advocates.

New York, Dec. 29.—John F. Stevens, formerly chief engineer of the Panama canal, in a letter to be published in this week's issue of Engineering News defends the Gatun dam, declaring there is no justification for the sensational reports attacking its design which recently have been circulated.

He states that the dam is being built actually much wider and higher than safety requires, but merely as a concession to prejudice, and that if the canal were being built by private interests a much less massive structure would be considered entirely secure.

Mr. Stevens suggests that the published attacks on the canal plans and methods of work are in the interest of the Nicaraguan route, and he declares that, in his opinion, the Panama canal has been wisely located and properly planned.

As a hint to Mr. Bryan for March 4 the Brooklyn Eagle recalls the fact that Stephen A. Douglas held Lincoln's hat at Old Abe's first inaugural. But at the national polls in 1860 Douglas had proved to be an ally rather than an opponent of Lincoln. He split the Democratic popular vote, but gained only twelve electoral votes. Douglas' Democratic rival, John C. Breckinridge, received seventy-two votes in the electoral college, standing the second highest, although his popular vote was fewer by 500,000 than that cast for the "Little Giant."

FACTS IN FEW LINES

A hand (horse measure) is four inches.

The average age of the people of New York city is twenty-seven years. The total number of sailing vessels in the world is double that of steamers.

Bombia has not been an independent state since 1380, when the Turks conquered it.

Distress in India is still decreasing. The number now in receipt of state relief is only 405,000.

Of the 105 counties of Kansas 100 have some of their boys and girls attending Kansas university.

Following a practical demonstration of its value in that field, the government will use concrete buildings in which to store explosives in the canal zone.

A New York law has gone into effect forbidding boys and girls under fourteen years of age to sell newspapers on the streets between 10 p. m. and 6 a. m.

As a proof of the lasting qualities of cypress a coffin recently was excavated at New Orleans which had been buried since 1803, yet the wood was as sound as when new.

Lava from the volcano of Savalli, in the Samoan islands, which has been in constant eruption for over three years, has formed a river eight miles wide flowing into the ocean.

According to the federal fish commission, which has been making tests, the meat of the small shark, commonly known as dogfish, is palatable and more nutritious than beef.

In a recent race in a Canadian town third place was won by a jockey 103 years old. Since he began his racing career at the age of eighteen he has ridden in more than 6,000 races.

The equipment of the big buildings of New York city with telephones makes a great demand for wire. In five buildings alone the telephone wires total a length of 2,300 miles.

Nearly 4,000,000 pounds of log bristles were exported from Shanghai last year. They were valued at \$1,858,600. It takes a hundred coolies to sort and bundle about fifty pounds of bristles a day.

That there will be no more Spanish women toreadors is said to be due to the influence of Queen Victoria, who dislikes bullfights very much, but King Alfonso must go very slow in combating the pride of the Spaniards in their national game.

Schenectady is the only city of New York state in which grade crossings have been entirely abolished. Since the public service commission was organized only 250 have been done away with, and there still remain 8,733 on steam roads alone.

It is known that Alaska has yielded great wealth to the fur industry, but the extent cannot be stated with any certainty, as it has been the policy of the fur trader to conceal his operations, and the conditions of the trade are such that he is able to do so.

At a cost of nearly \$5,000,000 the British admiralty will construct a line of huge concrete blocks at Spithead to force vessels to use a defined channel. Naval maneuvers have shown that it is possible for small craft to creep up to the shore at night.

According to the last census, there are 233,598,005 chickens of laying age in the United States. These are valued at \$70,000,000, and the eggs they lay would if divided allow 203 eggs annually to every person—man, woman and child—in the United States.

The newest thing in freak photography in Egypt is posing for photographs in cardboard sphinx molds and mummy cases. A hole is left where the face of the sphinx should be, and English and American faces peer out from this vantage upon the photographer.

Albert Card of Searsport, Me., has a novel watch charm. It looks like an ordinary silver locket of rectangular shape, but opens to disclose a tiny English dictionary. One inch long, three-quarters of an inch wide and one-quarter of an inch thick, the little book contains about 1,300 words with their definitions.

A forgotten picture by Frans Hals, the famous Dutch master, has been discovered in a country house near Dublin and sold to the British national gallery for £25,000. Hardly half a century has elapsed since the very best examples of Hals' work were thought dear enough at £2,000, and the poorer ones would not fetch more than a tithe of the sum.

The automobile club responds to the accident indictment with "You're another." It admits that there are reckless drivers, but says that the chief fault lies with pedestrians. According to that, if reckless drivers are abolished pedestrians will insist on breaking their own legs and cracking their own skulls.

That sending of invitations to bridge parties through the mails can be stopped without the parties chiefly interested discovering that anything has happened.



More Vacant Chairs.

Among the scores of Americans distinguished for their public activities who passed away in 1908 it may be said without bias that none will be more often missed the next few years than Grover Cleveland. With the single exception of Grant, whose distinction anyway was gained in the field instead of the White House, no ex-president of the republic since the days of the founders having a personality as marked as that of Cleveland remained so long on the stage to enact the role of foremost citizen and elder statesman. The world of literature lost in Edmund Clarence Stedman a writer with his task completed, yet bearing worthily among his fellows and in the eyes of the cultured public the title "dean of American letters." Closer yet to the popular heart than Stedman, with a pen still active, Joel Chandler Harris had made for himself a place not to be easily filled.

From among the elder statesmen were also taken Senator William Boyd Allison and Senator Redfield Proctor. Journalism lost a past master in Murrat Halstead. The chairs of Dr. Charles Eliot Norton and Dr. Moses Colt Gilman will remain long draped out of respect to scholars who have placed our national culture in their lasting debt. Harriet Hosmer, the sculptor; Lonise Chandler Moulton, the author; Bronson Howard, the pioneer native dramatist; Joseph Wheelock, the actor, and Donald G. Mitchell (ik Marvel)—revered as a sage by the literary guild—all of the old school, yielded honors rather than powers at the summons of the great leveler.

The annual Nobel prize award is an ideal method for letting the whole world know what has been going on among scientific toilers of late. But for the patient investigation of evidence by competent authorities few outside of technical circles would ever learn who has been doing the greatest work for humanity during the year or what branch of activity has achieved the most valuable result.

A chorus of "let us alone" extending from congress all around to Cuba was the echo to the annual message, notwithstanding that some critics insist that the document was only another sermon.

Even Japan's geisha girls and our chorus girls are asking whether that Washington-Tokyo "mutual interest" confab counts them out or counts them in or counts them not at all.

Speaker Cannon is doubtless sincere in declaring for honest tariff revision, but the nicest honesty can be differential when it comes to placing benefits.

Test a boy's brightness by asking him to point out the good skating or tell where his dad keeps the "hickory" or when the next school holiday is due.

PEACE WITH THE YAQUIS.

Treaty is Signed by Indian Chiefs and Governor of Sonora.

Nogales, Ariz., Dec. 30.—The long war with Yaqui Indians in Mexico, in which scores have been killed, including many Americans, has been terminated.

A treaty of peace has been signed by three Indian chiefs and 166 of their followers and the governor of Sonora, Mexico.

The scene enacted at the treaty agreement was a remarkable one, concluding with the Mexican soldiers embracing the Yaquis and participating in a joint celebration.

Fitzsimmons Challenges Johnson. Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 30.—Bob Fitzsimmons, former heavyweight champion of the world, has issued a challenge to Jack Johnson, the conqueror of Tommy Burns, for a fight for the heavyweight title.

Chile to Borrow \$15,000,000.

London, Dec. 30.—A Chilean loan of \$15,000,000 will be issued next week under the auspices of the Rothschilds.

Earthquake Shock in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 30.—An earthquake shock was felt near Ekaterinburg, in the Ural mountains.

SPRECKELS LEFT \$50,000,000.

Widow, Two Sons and Daughter Get Sugar King's Estate.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—Under the will of Claus Spreckels the widow receives a life interest in the estate, which after her death is to be divided among three children—Claus A. Spreckels, Rudolph Spreckels and Mrs. John Ferriss of Kingswood, England, formerly Miss Emma Spreckels.

The testament recites that the two other sons, John D. and Adolph, were liberally provided for during the life of the testator. The value of the estate is \$50,000,000.

Mrs. Anna Spreckels, the widow, is now seventy-eight years old. In the event that Claus A. or Rudolph Spreckels die before her the share of the one dying is to be divided among the surviving children.

Saving Corn.

The annual slump in hogs has come earlier than usual this year because corn matured early and the hogs are being finished up with as little of it as possible. The light average weight of the hogs marketed indicates this, and so does their quality, which is inferior. Everywhere there seems to be a disposition to save corn. This is all right as far as it relates to the economical use of it, but there may be false economy in corn as in everything else. The man who rushes his pigs to market to save corn is in all probability practicing false economy. He is likely to find that he could have marketed both pigs and corn in one car later on to better advantage. This early slump may induce those who have not marketed their hogs to keep them back, make them good and in the end do better with them than if they shipped now. Unless something checks this false economy of corn that grain is going to come to market in too liberal quantities for the good of prices.

RUINS LOOTED BY VANDALS

Troops Shoot Scores In Italian Cities.

DEATH LIST 90,000

Pope Gives \$200,000, King \$400,000, to Relief.

AMERICAN CONSUL IS KILLED.

Scores of Thousands in Towns of Calabria and Southern Italy Are Homeless, and Numberless Others Are Injured or Buried Alive in Masses of Debris From Fallen Houses and Public Buildings—Refugees From Messina Tell of Terrible Scenes and Widespread Suffering—Geography of the Straits Changed and Navigation Made Impossible.

Rome, Dec. 30.—To the horrors of earthquake and inundation are added today the horrors of vandalism and starvation.

In Messina, Reggio, Palmi, Catania, Boplar and other stricken cities bands of armed vandals have gone about robbing the dead and injured and looting ruined buildings, stabbing and shooting any survivors who opposed them.

Large bodies of troops sent to establish martial law in these cities have shot and killed scores of marauders, but the looting has not been stopped.

Latest reports today place the estimated number of killed at 90,000, of which 55,000 were in Messina, 17,000 in Reggio, 1,200 in Palmi, 1,600 in Bognara and 2,400 in Catania.

One serious result of the earthquake is that the straits of Messina have



MAP SHOWING REGION DEVASTATED.

been geographically upheaved, and navigation is impossible. The famous whirlpool of Charybdis has shifted its position.

King Victor Emmanuel and the queen, who left for the scene of the calamity, reached Reggio today. One of the deputies at the station observed to the king, "The presence of your majesty will suffice to console the stricken population."

The king turned sharply upon the speaker and said abruptly, "Don't talk nonsense." The hands of all the nations have been extended to Italy in her affliction. From rulers have come messages of condolence and from the peoples spontaneous promise of that aid which brings the world closer together in times of great calamity.

Great Britain, France and Russia have sent their warships to lend assistance to the stricken cities. Relief funds have already been started, and a hundred ships and trains are on their way carrying supplies and re-enforcements to the south. Rome, Milan, Florence, Naples and other cities are sending physicians, police and firemen.

The pope has telegraphed the archbishops of Palermo and Catania and the bishops of Mileto and Catanzaro expressing his deepest affliction in the appalling calamity and ordering the saying of prayers.

The pope gave \$200,000 and King Victor Emmanuel \$400,000 to the relief fund which the international Catholic relief committee is raising for the earthquake victims.

In the Calabrian district, which was only beginning to recover from the effects of the earthquake of 1905, Reggio, which had 17,000 population, was the center of the earth's upheaval. The city is a vast sepulcher, having been utterly destroyed. The seaport of Reggio is reported as no longer existing, and the city proper is in ruins.

Reports from Messina today say that at least 55,000 men, women and children were killed in that city and that 90,000 are rendered homeless.

The fires started by the explosion of the gas works at Messina are still raging. The bodies of dead and injured alike are being burned in the ruins. The city is deserted save for some half naked survivors who wander through the ruins and for the soldiers

and sailors who are engaged in the work of rescue.

The soldiers have bent every effort to stop the sweep of the flames. They are also kept busy with the convicts who escaped from the prison after it had been demolished. Several of these who were caught looting have been shot.

The tidal wave caused more destruction in Messina and more loss of life than the earthquake. The great mass of water that fell upon the city after the shock was about fifty feet high.

This great wall of water fell upon the town and in a few minutes had inundated it to its roofs. Before it everything seemed to be swept away. The big Trinacria hotel, one of the largest in Sicily, disappeared entirely.

In this hotel were hundreds of foreigners from all parts of the world. Some of the visitors were Americans, and it was thought that these may be among the dead.

Buildings that are completely destroyed include the municipal offices, the bourse, buildings of the post telegraph companies, the cathedral and nearly all the churches.

Arthur S. Cheney, American consul at Messina, and his wife lost their lives in the earthquake.

The straits of Messina have taken an entirely new shape since the earthquake. Navigators describe them as "twisted." Many villages and forts along the straits have been destroyed. Lighthouses have been swallowed up by the sea, and navigation is impossible.

Starving, bleeding from injuries and almost insane from their terrifying experiences, Messina's survivors are fleeing in all directions. The spectacle presented by the ruined seaport is described as terrifying. Tumbling buildings both killed and mutilated, while hundreds of the injured imprisoned in the wreckage were abandoned to their fate by the fleeing populace.

A wounded soldier from Messina said:

"The spectacle was terrifying beyond words. Dante's 'Inferno' gives you but a faint idea as to what happened at Messina. The first shock came before the sun had risen. It shook the city to its very foundations. Immediately the houses began to crumble. Those of us who were not killed at once made our way over undulating floors to the street. Beams were crashing down through the rooms. The stairs were equally unsafe.

"I found the streets blocked by fallen houses. Balconies, chimneys, bell towers, entire walls, had been thrown down. From every side of me arose the screams and moanings of the wounded. The people were half mad with excitement and fear. Most of them had rushed out in their nightclothes. In a little while we were all shivering under a torrential downpour of rain. Everywhere there were dead bodies—nude, disfigured and mutilated. In the ruins I could see arms and legs moving helplessly. From every quarter came piteous appeals for aid.

"The city hall, the cathedral and the barracks crumbled, and churches, other public buildings and dwellings without number were literally razed to the ground. There were 200 customs agents at the barracks. Only forty-one of them were saved. At the railroad station only eight out of 280 employees have been accounted for.

"Many of those who succeeded in escaping with their lives said the first thing they knew they were thrown out of bed and amid crashing ceilings and falling furniture managed to make their way to the street. Then in the blackness of night and amid a pouring rain that added to their horror and distress they rushed blindly away amid the crash of tumbling buildings and the shrieks and groans of those buried in the ruins. Many were struck down while trying to escape by falling balconies and masonry.

"Looters and robbers by the dozen were shot dead by the rifles of the soldiers."

San Giovanni, Scilla, Cannitello and all the other communes and villages bordering on the straits are in ruins. Great numbers of dead are believed to be still under the wreckage.

The British steamer Ebro came in here from Messina with sixteen wounded, including Alfred J. Ogston, the British vice consul at Messina. Mrs. Ogston lost her life.

At Riposto the tidal wave was terrible. At first the sea receded for a great distance and then swept forward with tremendous violence.

The water advanced in a huge wave and swept before it every house and building for a thousand feet from the shore line. The waters rushed through the streets of Riposto to a depth of from ten to twenty feet.

Auto Kills Boy; Father a Suicide. Philadelphia, Dec. 30.—The death of Robert Becker, aged six years, who was run down and killed by an automobile, caused F. J. Becker, the boy's father, to commit suicide.

France Struck by Blizzard. Paris, Dec. 30.—France has been struck by a most severe blizzard, accompanied by a heavy fall of snow. Traffic in Paris is paralyzed.